

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS


Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 1-8, 15 and 35-37 are pending in the application and presented for examination. Claims 9-14 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of original claim 14. Applicants submit that no new matter is present in this or any other portion of the present amendment and respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the amendment and the following remarks.

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to incorporate the features of allowable claim 14. Applicants submit that in view of the amendment to claim 1, the pending claims 1-8, 15 and 35-37, are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph R. Snyder
Reg. No. 39,381

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 925-472-5000
Fax: 415-576-0300
JS:sc
60622644 v1